



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
**730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476**  
**Phone: 781-316-3000**

**webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us**

## **Conservation Commission Minutes 05/20/2010**

Arlington Conservation Commission  
 Minutes  
 May 20, 2010

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, David White, William O'Rourke, Charles Tirone, Catherine Garnett, and Ellen Reed of the Commission. Member Ezra Benjamin and Brian Thomas, Associate Commission member were not in attendance. Also in attendance were Brian Jones, Ken Ingber, Chris Poles, Tim Williams, Chris Nauman, Richard Kirby, Fernando Carreiro, Tara Mitchell, Robert Antico, Ron Burns, and Lisa Engler.

7:45 p.m. – Commission Business

White/O'Rourke moved to approve the 5/6 **meeting minutes** as edited; motion passed unanimously.

8pm – **Notice of Intent** – Lot C Coolidge Rd

This hearing was continued from 4/15/10, for the purposes of arranging peer review of the wetland delineation. A further development is that the property is being sold from Ann Stiles to Doug Stiles. The applicants have requested another continuance in order to complete this ownership transfer.

Reed/O'Rourke motioned to continue the hearing to 6/27 at 8:15pm; motion passed unanimously.

A second written oral request was received to extend the period to require a deposit in the consultant review account, currently due on 5/27/10. The matter was discussed with their the applicant's consultant, Rich Kirby.

Tirone/White motioned to extend the period to pay the fee to 6/10/10; motion passed unanimously.

8:15pm – **Notice of Intent** – 30-50 Mill St

Hearing continued from 5/6. The Commission received a list of questions from Ms. Beckwith for review of the project, a letter from the applicant's lawyers regarding the definition of structures, our a memo from Town Counsel opinion, and written responses from Tim Williams, applicant's consultant, on a variety of questions.

Mr. Attorney Ingber outlined the review of the application of the local wetland regulation which refers to structures, which are not defined, and illucidatedelucidated the general point that pollution prevention is the common goal, no matter what the definitions are.

Mr. Tirone asked if the stormwater swale included in this design was a grassy swale and therefore not a pretreatment practice. Mr. Jones responded that the treatment is a wet water quality swale with high water table and lots of wetland plants and not a grassy channel (which is only used for conveyance of water). This designed swale is flatter and receives water from the forebay,

Mr. Tirone asked if there was 2 feet of separation from the bottom of the forebay and the water table, as required by DEP's Stormwater Management Standards. Mr. Jones said that he would investigate and report back this information.

Mr. O'Rourke asked if the outlet pipe from the swale was the correct size. Mr. Williams and Mr. Jones responded that they decreased the size of the pipe in order to provide for more detention time in the swale, which provides for more water quality enhancement.

Ms. Beckwith asked if the landscape design could include bird houses, bat houses to allay concerns of residents that the wet swale would be a breeding ground for mosquitosmosquitoes.

The Commission asked whether the stairwells and support for the building were included in the compensatory flood storage calculations. Mr. Williams responded that the 800 sf of posts and stairwells in the garage would be in the floodplain and well compensated for in the calculations.

Mr. Tirone asked if the Operations and Maintenance plan had considerations for longterm maintenance of the swale. He would like to see more details of the forebay.

White/Reed motioned to continue the hearing, with the applicant's consent to 6/3 at 8:15pm; motion passed unanimously.

8:30pm –**Notice of Intent** – 6 Lawrence Lane

Mr. Kirby presented the proposal to put a small addition on the back of the house and a wooden deck. The work would be no closer than 52 feet from a wetland at the back of the property. The erosion control line could be placed in an adjusted location. A revised plan should reflect this change for the permit. This would be a condition of a permit if approved.

The addition would be 1 story tall over a walk out basement, with a frost wall with slab for foundation. Concrete would be pumped over the house. The tree in the back yard would be flagged so as to prevent damage. No large machinery would be driven into the back yard.

O'Rourke/Tirone motioned to close the hearing, and after discussion, moved to approve the project as conditioned; motions passed unanimously.

8:45pm – **Request for Determination of Applicability** – Alewife Greenway, Vegetation management plan

Ms. Garnet recused herself and left the meeting.

Ms. Mitchell presented the request to use herbicides on invasive species in conjunction with the landscaping enhancements being done on the Alewife Greenway project.

Glyphosate would be used in cut stump, backpack spray and injection methods on Japanese Knotweed, Norway Maple and other invasive plants. There are other approved herbicides included in the Yearly Operations Plan on the website for MassDOT's overall Vegetation Management Plan.

Mr. Stevens suggested that this permit RDA should instead be a request to n amend amendment to the existing permit for the Alewife Greenway.

O'Rourke/White motioned to issue a positive Determination of Applicability that further review is required, through either filing of a new Notice of Intent or filing for an Amendment of permit #91-200; motion passed, with one abstention by Mr. Tirone due to lack of information.

9pm **Notice of Intent** – Mystic Valley Parkway Bridge over Alewife Brook- reconstruction

Mr. Burns reviewed the project and that the Somerville Conservation Commission has already issued an Order of Conditions for their half of the bridge. The DCR has signed the Somerville NOI, and therefore have previous knowledge of this work.

The Commission would like to receive the update reports via email. The Chapter 91 permit included is the draft. When the final permit is issued the Commission would like a copy for their file.

Reed/Tirone motioned to approve the project as proposed and as conditioned by City of Somerville; motion passed unanimously.

Commission Business (cont.)

The **Cookes Hollow** public meeting was well attended and concerns were aired over any remains being included in

the park. Joey Glushko reviewed the zoning change required for this to occur.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corinna Beckwith  
Commission Administrator